

Defending Champion ShotLink Keys to Victory



Sepp Straka
The American Express

Sepp Straka earned his third career PGA TOUR title in his 169th start, converting a 54-hole lead/co-lead for the first time of his career.

Straka is the 7th different international player to win at The American Express. He moved to Second in the FedExCup standings

- 69** played first 69 holes without a bogey, his longest streak of holes bogey-free in an event of his TOUR career (*previous best: final 55 holes of the 2020 American Express*)
- 3rd** Third international winner in 2025 season (Matsuyama/The Sentry & Taylor/Sony Open), joining the 2003 season as the only two in the last 55 years where the first three events of the season were won by an international player.
- 27** made 27 birdies en route to victory, tied for the most in the field (Cam Davis) and his second most in a TOUR event (2025 The Sentry/28).

International Winners The American Express

Country		
Jon Rahm	Spain	2018 & 2023
Sepp Straka	Austria	2025
Si Woo Kim	Republic of Korea	2021
Jhonattan Vegas	Venezuela	2011
Mike Weir	Canada	2003
Jesper Parnevik	Sweden	2000
Bruce Devlin	Australia	1970

Most Events Lead/Co-Leading in GIR Percentage Since 2019-20 PGA TOUR Season

# of Events	
Scottie Scheffler	17
Xander Schauffele	11
Sepp Straka	10
Corey Connors	9
Jon Rahm	8

Straka ranked T1 in Greens in Regulation for the week, hitting 60 of 72 greens in regulation en route to victory. This week is the eighth time in his TOUR career to lead or co-lead in this category for an event, tied for the third-most events since the 2019-20 season. Sepp Straka joins Adam Scott and Joe Durant as the only players to lead/co-lead in GIR percentage in each of first three stroke-play TOUR titles in the last 30 years.

Lead/Co-Leading in GIR Percentage in First 3 Stroke-Play Wins - PGA TOUR Last 30 Years

Joe Durant	Adam Scott	Sepp Straka
1998 BMW Championship (90.28)	2003 Dell Technologies Championship (80.56)	2022 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches (76.39)
2001 The American Express (86.67)	2004 THE PLAYERS (75.00%)	2023 John Deere Classic (84.72)
2001 Doral (83.33)	2004 Kemper (83.33)	2025 The American Express (83.33)

Sepp Straka ranked inside the top eight in both SG: Off-the-Tee (+1.41/2nd) and SG: Putting (+1.89/8th) in two rounds on the Stadium Course en route to victory. Straka is the second player to rank 8th or better in both categories en route to victory at this event (Andrew Landry/2020).

FedExCup Notes

- 2nd** **Ryan Gerard** holds his best FedExCup rank in his PGA TOUR career entering the 2026 American Express. Gerard finished solo 2nd at the Sony Open in Hawaii last week
- 5** Players through the first week of the 2026 PGA TOUR Season are ranked inside the FedExCup Top 10 for the first time in their careers
- Ryan Gerard
 - Jacob Bridgeman
 - Taylor Pendrith
 - Davis Riley
 - Lee Hodges

Best FedExCup Rank After Any Event PGA TOUR Career (Gerard)

Season	Event	Rank
2026	Sony Open in Hawaii	2nd
2025	Barracuda Championship (WON) / The Open Champ.	28 th
2025	3M Open	29 th
2025	the Memorial Tournament presented by Workday	30 th
2025	Wyndham Championship	31 st
2025	Valero Texas Open	31 st

Current Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10 Movement Last Week

	Prev.	Curr.	Movement
Chris Gotterup	-	1 st	-
Ryan Gerard	-	2 nd	-
Patrick Rodgers	-	3 rd	-
Jacob Bridgeman	-	T4	-
Robert MacIntyre	-	T4	-
Daniel Berger	-	T6	-
Harry Hall	-	T6	-
Lee Hodges	-	T6	-
Taylor Pendrith	-	T6	-
Davis Riley	-	T6	-

Career Weeks Inside TOUR TOP 10 Current Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10

	Total
Chris Gotterup	9
Ryan Gerard	1
Patrick Rodgers	4
Jacob Bridgeman	1
Robert MacIntyre	2
Harry Hall	3
Taylor Pendrith	1
Davis Riley	1
Daniel Berger	25
Lee Hodges	1

Aon Next 10/Swing 5 Breakdown:

The American Express, the second event of the 2026 PGA TOUR Season, is the second opportunity for players to earn FedExCup points towards the Aon Swing 5 with entry into each of the next two Signature Events (AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, The Genesis Invitational)

The top five players, not otherwise exempt, who earn the most FedExCup points during the Sony Open in Hawaii, The American Express, Farmers Insurance Open and the WM Phoenix Open will qualify for the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and The Genesis Invitational

The Aon Next 10 represents the top 10 players not already exempt, from the FedExCup standings, while the Aon Swing 5 includes the top five FedExCup points earners, not already exempt, from a collection of Full-Field Events leading up to each Signature Event. The Aon Next 10 for the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and The Genesis Invitational was determined through the 2025 FedExCup Fall standings

Current Aon Next 10 Standings

	Points
Sami Valimaki	1,256.508
Max Greyserman	1,159.987
Garrick Higgo	1,020.000
Rico Hoey	998.781
Nico Echavarria	994.731
Aldrich Potgieter	983.167
Chris Kirk	974.632
Aaron Rai	957.189
Min Woo Lee	931.923
Max McGreevy	927.601

**Aon Swing 5
Thru 2026 Sony Open in Hawaii**

	Points
Patrick Rodgers	190.00
Lee Hodges	86.00
Davis Riley	86.00
Jake Knapp	67.50
Pierceson Coody	54.17
S.H. Kim	54.17
Kevin Roy	54.17
Sudarshan Yellamaraju	54.17

Course Stats (Pete Dye SC, Nicklaus TC, La Quinta CC)

Pete Dye Stadium Course

Lowest Hit Green PCT. When Going for It PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT.
Harbour Town Golf Links	6.90
Pete Dye Stadium Course	10.09
TPC San Antonio (Oaks Course)	11.35
Oakmont Country Club	11.70
The Country Club of Jackson	12.44

Toughest Greenside Bunkers PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Royal Portrush Golf Club	36.80
The Renaissance Club	44.08
Oakmont Country Club	47.94
Black Desert Resort	48.20
Pete Dye Stadium Course	49.53

Toughest Scrambling from Rough PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Oakmont Country Club	41.30
Yokohama Country Club (West Course)	41.70
Sedgefield Country Club	42.49
Pete Dye Stadium Course	45.98
Sea Island Golf Club (Seaside Course)	46.11

Nicklaus Tournament Course

Easiest Greens to Hit PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
El Cardonal at Diamante	81.51
Plantation Course at Kapalua	81.49
Sea Island Golf Club (Plantation Course)	81.16
Sea Island Golf Club (Seaside Course)	77.48
Nicklaus Tournament Course	75.22

Easiest Greenside Bunkers PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Harbour Town Golf Links	67.44
Sea Island Golf Club (Plantation Course)	66.67
TPC Southwind	66.67
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	65.03
Nicklaus Tournament Course	64.16

Lowest 3-Putt Percentage PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Nicklaus Tournament Course	0.87
Harbour Town Golf Links	0.96
TPC Southwind	0.97
La Quinta Country Club	1.29
Pebble Beach Golf Links	1.48

La Quinta Country Club

Easiest Scrambling Percentage PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Harbour Town Golf Links	69.65
La Quinta Country Club	69.02
The Country Club of Jackson	68.69
Grand Reserve Golf Club	68.31
Spyglass Hill Golf Course	67.67

Easiest Courses PGA TOUR Last Season

	Avg Under Par
Plantation Course at Kapalua	-4.26
Sea Island Golf Club (Plantation Course)	-3.79
Nicklaus Tournament Course	-3.75
La Quinta Country Club	-3.41
El Cardonal at Diamante	-3.1

Winners Analysis

Youngest Winners The American Express Since 1983

Age	
2024 Nick Dunlap	20 Years, 0 Months, 29 Days
2018 Jon Rahm	23 Years, 2 Months, 11 Days
2014 Patrick Reed	23 Years, 5 Months, 14 Days
2021 Si Woo Kim	25 Years, 6 Months, 27 Days
2011 Jhonattan Vegas	26 Years, 5 Months, 4 Days

Oldest Winners The American Express Since 1983

Age	
1993 Tom Kite	43 Years, 2 Months, 5 Days
2013 Brian Gay	41 Years, 1 Months, 6 Days
1997 John Cook	39 Years, 3 Months, 17 Days
2016 Jason Dufner	38 Years, 10 Months, 0 Days
1998 Fred Couples	38 Years, 3 Months, 15 Days

Lowest Score to Par by Winner The American Express Since 2012

Total	
2024 Nick Dunlap	-29
2014 Patrick Reed	-28
2023 Jon Rahm	-27
2019 Adam Long	-26
2020 Andrew Landry	-26

Most Birdies or Better by a Winner The American Express Since 2012

Total	
2014 Patrick Reed	32
2020 Andrew Landry	31
2016 Jason Dufner	30
2022 Hudson Swafford	30
2023 Jon Rahm	29
2024 Nick Dunlap	29

Fewest Holes Over Par by a Winner The American Express Since 2012

Total	
2024 Nick Dunlap	2
2013 Brian Gay	2
2025 Sepp Straka	2
2021 Si Woo Kim	2
2015 Bill Haas	2

Highest Driving Acc. % by a Winner The American Express Since 2012

Pct	
2013 Brian Gay	81.48
2020 Andrew Landry	75.00
2016 Jason Dufner	75.00
2012 Mark Wilson	74.07
2025 Sepp Straka	73.21
2021 Si Woo Kim	73.21

Highest Greens in Regulation % by a Winner The American Express Since 2012

Pct	
2013 Brian Gay	83.33
2025 Sepp Straka	83.33
2023 Jon Rahm	83.33
2021 Si Woo Kim	81.94
2012 Mark Wilson	80.56
2017 Hudson Swafford	80.56

Fewest Putts by a Winner The American Express Since 2012

Total	
2013 Brian Gay	98
2025 Sepp Straka	99
2023 Jon Rahm	104
2021 Si Woo Kim	104
2012 Mark Wilson	104

Broadcast Window Notes – 2026 The American Express

Jason Day, Alex Noren

Jason Day finished T3 at the 2025 The American Express, his best finish at this event in his PGA TOUR Career, he is one of 7 players to not miss a cut at this event since 2022 (*min 4 starts*). Day has 371 total PGA TOUR career starts, the second most by Australian players in the field this week.

Best Finishes The American Express PGA TOUR Career (Day)

Finish Pos.	
2025	T3
2023	T18
2024	T34
2022	T49

**1 of 7 players to not miss a cut at this event since 2022 (min 4 starts)*

Most PGA TOUR Starts by Australian Players in the field This Week

Total	
Adam Scott	426
Jason Day	371
Cam Davis	177
Min Woo Lee	68
Karl Vilips	22

Alex Noren is the second oldest player in the field seeking his first PGA TOUR win (43 years old). He has a total under par score of -49, the second highest at an event in his PGA TOUR Career. Noren has his second highest percentage of rounds in the 60s on the PGA TOUR Last Season (47.22%).

Oldest Players in Field Seeking First PGA TOUR Win

Age	
Michael Block	49
Alex Noren	43
John Parry	39
David Lipsky	37
Eric Cole	37

Most Under Par at an Event PGA TOUR Career (Noren)

Total	
THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson	-66
The American Express	-49
3M Open	-48
The RSM Classic	-39
Rocket Classic	-35
Butterfield Bermuda Champ.	-35

Highest % of Rounds in 60s PGA TOUR Career

PCT	
2020	56.67
2025	47.22
2024	46.58
2023	46.32
2022	37.00

Scottie Scheffler, Justin Rose

Scottie Scheffler ranked inside the Top 25 in All 6 Strokes Gained Categories in the 2025 season, one of five players to do so on the PGA TOUR since 2004. Scheffler is making his season debut this week, he has finished inside the top 10 in his season debut each of the last two seasons, with his best finish in a being T5 at the 2024 The Sentry. Finished 3rd at the 2020 The American Express, tied for his second best finish in California in his PGA TOUR career.

Top 25 in All 6 Strokes Gained Categories PGA TOUR Since 2004

	Season
Scottie Scheffler	2025
Justin Rose	2018
Rory McIlroy	2019
Jason Day	2015
Jordan Spieth	2015

Best Finishes in California PGA TOUR Career

	Finish Position
2025 Procore Championship	WON
2023 U.S. Open (LACC)	3 rd
2020 The American Express	3rd
2025 The Genesis Invitational (Torey Pines - SC)	T3
2020 PGA Championship (TPC Harding Park)	T4

Season Debut Event Finish PGA TOUR Career Since 2020 (Scheffler)

Season Year	Event	Finish Pos.
2025	AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am	T9
2024	The Sentry	T5
2022-23*	2022 THE CJ CUP in South Carolina	T45
2021-22*	2021 Shriners Children's Open	CUT
2020-21*	2020 Sanderson Farms Championship	T37
2019-20*	2019 A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier	T7

**wrap around seasons*

Justin Rose has a Par 5 Scoring Average of 4.21 at the Pete Dye Stadium Course, the second best at this course since 2016 (*min 4 rds played*). Rose has the largest Par 3 Birdie or Better Rank Improvement on the PGA TOUR from 2024 to 2025 season improving 134 positions, he ranked 12th in this category last season. He was tied for 29th in Par 3 Performance on the PGA TOUR last season, his best rank of all the Par Performances.

Best Par 5 Scoring Avg Pete Dye Stadium Course Since 2016

	Avg
Xander Schauffele	4.17
Justin Rose	4.21
Ben Griffin	4.33
Scottie Scheffler	4.33
Matt Jones	4.39

**min 4 rds played*

Largest Par 3 Birdie or Better Rank Improvement PGA TOUR 2024 v 2025

	2024	2025	Improvement
Justin Rose	T146	12th	+134
Rico Hoey	144 th	11 th	+133
Tommy Fleetwood	166 th	41 st	+125
Garrick Higgo	123 rd	1 st	+122
Andrew Putnam	149 th	28 th	+121

Performance by Par PGA TOUR Last Season

	Rank
Par 3	T29
Par 4	168 th
Par 5	T144

Ludvig Åberg, Harris English

Ludvig Åberg has ranked inside the top 15 in Strokes Gained Off-the-Tee on the PGA TOUR the last three seasons, one of five players to do so. Åberg has made 7.86% of Putts > 25' on the PGA TOUR the last two seasons, tied for the third highest percentage of any player in that span (*min 50 rds played*). Åberg won his event debut at the 2025 The Genesis Invitational, his best finish in an event debut in his PGA TOUR career. He is making his event debut at The American Express this week.

Players to Rank Inside the Top 15 SG: Off-The-Tee PGA TOUR Last 3 Seasons

	Total
Ludvig Åberg	3
Rory McIlroy	3
Scottie Scheffler	3
Kevin Yu	3
Keith Mitchell	3

Highest PCT of Putts Made > 25' PGA TOUR Last 2 Seasons

	PCT
Danny Walker	9.40
Zach Johnson	8.53
Ludvig Åberg	7.86
Matthieu Pavon	7.86
Cameron Young	7.68

**min 50 rds played*

Best Event Debut Finishes PGA TOUR Career (Åberg)

	Finish
2025 The Genesis Invitational	WON
2023 Sanderson Farms Championship	T2
2023 John Deere Classic	T4
2025 The Sentry	T5
2025 Masters Tournament	T7
2025 BMW Championship	T7

**making event debut this week*

Harris English has ranked inside the top 20 in Strokes Gained Putting in four seasons on the PGA TOUR since 2021, tied for the second most of any player in that span. English made 91.30% of cuts on the PGA TOUR in 2025, his Highest Made Cut Percentage in a Season in his PGA TOUR career.

Most Seasons Ranked Inside the Top 20 SG: Putting PGA TOUR Since 2021

	Total
Sam Burns	5
Denny McCarthy	4
Harris English	4

**5 players at 3*

Highest Made Cut PCT in a Season PGA TOUR Career

	PCT
2025	91.30
2019-20	90.00
2020-21	84.62
2014-15	82.76

**2 seasons at 81.48*

Ben Griffin, Patrick Cantlay

Ben Griffin is coming off back-to-back Top 10 finishes at The American Express, matched only by Justin Thomas. Those two Top 10s are tied for the most at any single event in Griffin's PGA TOUR career. Griffin finished the 2025 season ranked in the Top 30 across Par 3, Par 4 and Par 5 scoring, one of six players to do so. He also ranks second on the PGA TOUR in Par 3 scoring average at 2.99 since 2023.

Events With Multiple Top 10 Finishes PGA TOUR Career (Griffin)

	Total
The American Express	2
Wyndham Championship	2
Butterfield Bermuda Championship	2

Scoring Average by Par PGA TOUR Last Season (Griffin)

	AVG	Rank
Par 3	2.98	T5
Par 4	3.98	T27
Par 5	4.52	T17

Par 3 Scoring Average Leaders PGA TOUR Since 2023

	AVG
Nico Echavarria	2.98
Ben Griffin	2.99
Eric Cole	2.99
Harry Hall	3.00
Andrew Putnam	3.01

**Min 75 Events Played*

Patrick Cantlay made the second-largest Greens-in-Regulation jump on the PGA TOUR over the last two seasons, improving 144 spots from 2024 to 2025. Cantlay is seeking to earn his first win while making his season debut, with his best season debut finish coming at the 2022 Shriners Children's Open in 2022 with a T2.

Largest Greens in Regulation Rank Improvement PGA TOUR Last 2 Seasons

	2024	2025	Improv
Thorbjørn Olesen	158 th	7 th	+151
Patrick Cantlay	T171	27th	+144
Nicolai Højgaard	146 th	20 th	+126
Russell Henley	150 th	26 th	+124

Best Season Debut Event Finish PGA TOUR Career (Cantlay)

Season Year	Event	Finish Pos.
2022-23*	2022 Shriners Children's Open	T2
2021-22*	2022 The Sentry	4 th
2024	The Sentry	T12
2025	The Sentry	T15
2017-18*	2017 WGC-HSBC Champions	T15

**wrap around year*

Wyndham Clark, Robert MacIntyre

Wyndham Clark has 18 rounds of par or better at this event, ties the third most of any player since 2021. He is one of three players to rank inside the Top 30 in Birdie Average on the PGA TOUR Last 3 seasons. Clark has hit 57.12% of drives over 300 yards on the PGA TOUR Since 2019, the fifth highest percentage on the PGA TOUR Since 2019.

Most Par or Better Rounds The American Express Since 2021

	Total
Patrick Cantlay	19
Si Woo Kim	19
Wyndham Clark	18
Tony Finau	18
Adam Hadwin	18
Andrew Putnam	18

Players to Rank Inside the Top 30 Birdie Average PGA TOUR Last 3 Seasons

	2023	2024	2025
Wyndham Clark	T27	T21	T30
Scottie Scheffler	T4	1 st	2 nd
Viktor Hovland	T4	T18	24

Percentage of Drives Over 300 Yards PGA TOUR Since 2019

	PCT
Rory McIlroy	63.17
Taylor Pendrith	59.93
Cameron Champ	59.74
Trey Mullinax	59.45
Wyndham Clark	57.12

**Min 100 Events Played*

Robert MacIntyre was one of four players in 2025 to rank Top 60 in all four Strokes Gained categories, along with Scottie Scheffler, Ben Griffin, and Tommy Fleetwood. MacIntyre made 21 cuts last season in comparison to 15 cuts made in 2024. His best finish in a season debut in his PGA TOUR Career, T4 at the 2026 Sony Open in Hawaii.

Season Comparison PGA TOUR 2024 v 2025

	2024	2025
Wins	2	0
Top 10s	6	6
Top 25s	9	11
Cuts Made	15	21

Strokes Gained Breakdown 2025 Season (MacIntyre)

	AVG	Rank
Off-the-Tee	+0.23	T52
Approach-the-Green	+0.31	40 th
Around-the-Green	+0.10	60 th
Putting	+0.25	T39

Best Finish in Season Debut PGA TOUR Career

Season	Event	Finish Position
2026	2026 Sony Open in Hawaii	T4
2019	2019 The Open Championship	T6
2022	2022 The Genesis Invitational	T15
2025	2025 The Sentry	T15
2020	2019 World Golf Championships-HSBC Champions	T17

Sepp Straka, Sam Burns

Sepp Straka the 2025 The American Express Champion is looking to complete his first successful title defense at an event in his PGA TOUR career. Straka ranked inside the top 30 in Strokes Gained Approach the Green (7th), Greens in Regulation (24th), and Proximity to the Hole (26th) on the PGA TOUR in 2025, one of 7 players to do so. In his career he has had a Par 4 Scoring Average of 3.80 at Pete Dye Stadium Course his best at a course in his PGA TOUR career.

Approach the Green Rank Comparison PGA TOUR 2024 v 2025

	2024	2025
Strokes Gained	40 th	7 th
Greens In Regulation	92 nd	24 th
Proximity to Hole	T129	26 th

**one of 7 players inside top 30 in 2025*

Best Par 4 Scoring Avg at Course PGA TOUR Career

	Avg
Pete Dye Stadium Course	3.80
Plantation Course at Kapalua	3.86
Detroit Golf Club	3.89
TPC Deere Run	3.90
Puntacana Resort & Club (Corales Golf Course)	3.91

**min 8 rds played*

Best Finish by Defending Champion The American Express

	Finish
1976 Johnny Miller	WON
2011 Bill Haas	T2
1961 Arnold Palmer	3 rd
2000 David Duval	T5

Straka is seeking his first successful title defense

Sam Burns is one of two players on the PGA TOUR to rank inside the top 10 in Putts Per Round each of the last 3 seasons (Taylor Montgomery). Burns has gained an average of +0.65 strokes putting on the PGA TOUR since 2021, the third best average of any player in that span. He has a Birdie or Better Percentage of 34.85% at Pete Dye Stadium Course, his highest at a course in his PGA TOUR career.

Players Inside Top 10 in Putts Per Round PGA TOUR Last 3 Seasons

	2022-23	2024	2025
Sam Burns	T10	1st	4th
Taylor Montgomery	2 nd	T2	1 st

Best Avg Strokes Gained: Putting PGA TOUR Since 2021

	Avg
Taylor Montgomery	+0.92
Denny McCarthy	+0.67
Sam Burns	+0.65
Harry Hall	+0.60
Brendon Todd	+0.55

**min 55 events played*

Highest Birdie or Better PCT at Course PGA TOUR Career

	PCT
Pete Dye Stadium Course	34.85
Plantation Course at Kapalua	31.94
TPC Craig Ranch	31.67
Caves Valley Golf Club	29.86
Silverado Resort (North Course)	29.44

**min 8 rds played*

Misc.

**Most Under Par at an Event
PGA TOUR Career (Billy Horschel)**

	Total
Wyndham Championship	-125
The Sentry	-89
The American Express	-83
WM Phoenix Open	-83
World Wide Technology Champ.	-74

**Around the Green Rank Comparison
PGA TOUR 2024 v 2025 (Min Woo Lee)**

	2024	2025
Strokes Gained	68 th	13th
Sand Save PCT*	T127	14th
Scrambling PCT	166 th	92nd

**7th largest Sand Save PCT Rank Improvement*